

EPA SecuRemote Implementation

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SecuRemote Requirements Background

- ▶ EPA program data systems are accessed by EPA partners via Internet.
- ▶ Many program data systems contain information that is potentially sensitive or at least in prerelease form.
- ▶ Commonly used Internet access protocols such as FTP & Telnet do not encrypt the user-id and password during authentication.
- ▶ Commonly used data base access protocols such as SQL*net do not encrypt data communications.
- ▶ Un-encrypted Internet communications can be intercepted and reconstructed



SecuRemote Requirements Background

- ▶ Secure Internet access to EPA hosts is required to prevent unauthorized access to the EPA network, hosts and program data systems by:
 - ▶ Ensuring that only authorized users are allowed to access systems on EPA's internal network.
 - ▶ Protecting access credentials (user-id & password) during authentication;
 - ▶ Protecting data during transmission between the user and EPA host over the Internet.



What is SecuRemote?

- ▶ A Virtual Private Networking(VPN) client that:
 - ▶ Is developed by CheckPoint systems.
 - ▶ Uses IPSEC standard methods for secure Internet communications
 - ▶ Provides encryption keys unique to EPA;
 - ▶ Authenticates users at EPA's border;
 - ▶ Encrypts ALL Internet communications between the remote desktop and EPA;
 - ▶ Is provided to EPA partners and users at no cost;
 - ▶ Currently supported for Windows 95/98/Millennium/NT;



Why didn't EPA Consult with States Prior to Implementing SecuRemote?

- ▶ External factors beyond our control forced EPA to sever Internet connectivity on February 17, 2000.
- ▶ Secure communications via the Internet were required in order to restore access to EPA data systems.
- ▶ EPA originally planned significant SecuRemote testing and evaluation with partner organizations prior to full scale implementation, but was required to implement ahead of schedule to restore State access to data systems



Why did EPA choose SecuRemote?

- ▶ SecuRemote is based on established Internet standards not a proprietary solution.
- ▶ Does not require changes to clients or servers supporting an application.
- ▶ SecuRemote has no license cost for EPA partners.
- ▶ SecuRemote minimizes the desktop impact for partners by:
 - ▶ Providing a single desktop solution for secure communications with EPA.
 - ▶ Avoiding the use of many different application and/or protocol specific point solutions.
 - ▶ Allowing EPA partners to continue using the general purpose Internet clients of their choice when communicating with EPA.



Common SecuRemote Technical Issues

- ▶ Not supported by Microsoft Proxy Server and Novell BorderManager.
- ▶ Requires current versions of most Firewall software in order to obtain support for the IPSEC communications standard.
- ▶ Some configurations of Network Address Translation (NAT) do not support the IPSEC standard and require specialized configuration.
- ▶ There is no support for UNIX or Mac, or Windows 2000.
- ▶ Does not support connection through AOL or CompuServe.



How Will EPA Address These Issues?

- ▶ EPA is testing a new version of SecuRemote that should resolve the issues related to Microsoft Proxy Server, Novell BorderManager and NAT
- ▶ UNIX and MAC support is not expected from SecuRemote. EPA will have to evaluate alternatives for users of these systems.
- ▶ EPA is testing a SecuRemote client designed for Windows 2000.
- ▶ AOL and CompuServe support is not expected because they use proprietary IP communications rather than the Windows standard IP communications.



How is EPA Helping Partners Implement SecuRemote?

- ▶ Technical information available at www.epa.gov/ntsd/securemote
- ▶ The EPA Customer Call Center is available for user support issues
 - ▶ Weekdays 8:00am to 5:00pm
919-541-7862 or 800-334-2405
- ▶ Network and Firewall engineering support available via:
 - ▶ Help Desk call escalation;
 - ▶ Direct request to David Updike at,
919-541-0780 or updike.david@epa.gov



Which States Already Support SecuRemote?

- ▶ 150+ users in 33 States are successfully using SecuRemote through their networks
- ▶ 18 States and Territories remaining to be connected
- ▶ EPA Region 1
 - ▶ Yes=CT, ME, RI, VT : No=MA, NH
- ▶ EPA Region 2
 - ▶ Yes=NY (DEC), American Samoa : No=NJ*, NY*(EFC) Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
- ▶ EPA Region 3
 - ▶ Yes=PA, VA, WV : No=DE, MD, DC
- ▶ EPA Region 4
 - ▶ Yes= FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN : No=AL*
- ▶ * =using SecuRemote, but not through standard network



Which States Already Support SecuRemote?

- ▶ EPA Region 5
 - ▶ Yes= MN, OH, WI : No=IL, IN*, MI*
- ▶ EPA Region 6
 - ▶ Yes=AR, LA, NM, OK : No=TX*
- ▶ EPA Region 7
 - ▶ Yes= IA, KS, NE : No=MO*
- ▶ EPA Region 8
 - ▶ Yes= MT, ND, SD : No=CO*, UT, WY
- ▶ EPA Region 9
 - ▶ Yes=CA, HI : No=AZ, NV
- ▶ EPA Region 10
 - ▶ Yes= ID, OR, WA : No=AK
- ▶ * =using SecuRemote, but not through standard network



How Do I Get SecuRemote Help?

- ▶ For technical information regarding SecuRemote configuration and communications requirements go to
 - ▶ www.epa.gov/ntsd/securemote
- ▶ To obtain post implementation technical support call contact the EPA Customer Call Center at 919-541-7862 or 800-334-2405
- ▶ To obtain dedicated implementation support....
 - ▶ Contact David Updike at 919-541-0780 or updike.david@epa.gov

